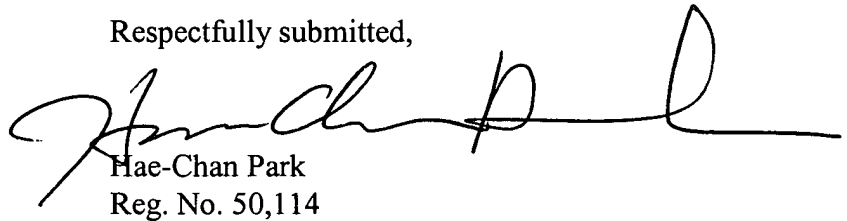


***Conclusion***

It is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered prior to the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is believed that no new matter is added by this amendment. By this amendment, claims 77-96 are pending, among which claims 77, 79, 81, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 94 and 96 are independent claims. If the Examiner desires any additional information, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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